

RESOLUTION O-W 08-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE OKALOOSA-WALTON TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO INCREASE FREIGHT RAIL HAULING CAPACITY

WHEREAS, the Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) is the metropolitan planning organization designated by the Governor of Florida as being responsible for carrying out a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Okaloosa-Walton Metropolitan Planning Area; and

WHEREAS, Freight rail hauling capacity is an important component of our local and national intermodal transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the efficient movement of goods is directly related to the strength of our local and national economy and our citizens' quality of life; and

WHEREAS, public policies promoting increased investment in freight rail infrastructure would result in increased freight rail hauling capacity; and

WHEREAS, Go21, a national lobbying group for the rail industry, has requested TPOs to support their efforts for Congress to create federal investment tax incentives to increase freight rail hauling capacity and oppose any effort to re-regulate freight railroads; and

WHEREAS, Federal investment tax incentives is the type of legislation that the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials says is needed to accommodate increasing freight volumes and realize the public benefits that come from shipping more freight by rail;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE OKALOOSA-WALTON TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION THAT:

1. The TPO supports the Go21 mission of building a stronger economy, reducing highway congestion, improving air quality, using tax dollars more efficiently, and improving quality of life by advocating for increased use of freight rail transportation; and
2. The TPO supports federal investment tax incentives to increase freight rail hauling capacity and opposes any effort to re-regulate freight railroads.

Passed and duly adopted by the Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization on this 18th day of September 2008.

**OKALOOSA-WALTON TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

BY: 
William H. Garvie, Chairman


ATTEST: